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CONTADORA MINISTERS TO HOLD 'EMERGENCY MEETING'

PA310052 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0014 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Panama City, 30 Aug (DPA) -- The four Contadora Group foreign ministers will hold an emergency meeting in Panama City next Wednesday to analyze the results of the meeting the deputy foreign ministers held 25-28 August.

The Panamanian Foreign Ministry today said that the meeting will be held behind closed doors to examine the report submitted by the deputy foreign ministers and will be attended by Bernardo Sepulveda (Mexico), Isidoro Morales (Venezuela), Augusto Ramirez (Colombia), and Oyden Ortega (Panama).

The four foreign ministers will hold a joint meeting with the five foreign ministers of the Central American countries on 14-15 September to analyze the Central American situation and to discuss the grave disagreements that have emerged regarding the implementation of the Contadora Pacification Agreement.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON IA-ECOSOC MEETING IN CHILE

Ministerial Phase Begins

PY310010 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0753 GMT 30 Aug 84

[By Albino Mallo]

[Text] Santiago, 30 Aug (EFE) -- With the opening of the ministerial phase of the meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council [IA-Ecosoc] today, a difference in positions between the Latin American and Caribbean nations and the United States has been noted.

Colombian delegate Luis C. Villegas is the one who raised his voice to denounce a "complete lack of negotiations between Latin American and the United States."

The words of the Colombian delegate were spoken at a time when the Special Commission for Consultation and Negotiation [CECON] agreements, in which the United States sought to make basic changes, changes which were not admitted, were being discussed.

Villegas added that Latin America and the Caribbean had their forums for making their proposals and that they did not require an authorization from the United States in order to reach agreements during such forums.

According to the Colombian diplomat, the issues raised are subjected to an authorization by -- and not to negotiations with -- the United States.

The opposition or abstention of the United States was noted in all the topics that were raised which affected U.S. interests, especially the ones related to a possible protectionist policy detrimental to the copper-producing countries, and to the high fees that are being charged at the Panama Canal.

Other Latin American representatives present at the Ecosoc meeting regretted the fact that the council is being used as "a forum for confrontation instead of a forum for dialogue."

After 3 days of technical meetings, the phase for ratifying agreements by the ministers will start today. This meeting will be presided over by Chilean Finance Minister Modesto Collados and will be attended by OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena.

The ministers will again review basic issues, such as the ones related to the foreign debt of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, interregional trade, U.S. protectionism, and other lesser matters.

Among the latter are the assistance for the development of the smaller OAS states and the aid for the countries located in the Central American isthmus.

The ministers will also discuss the call for holding an inter-American conference on trade relations in 1985.

Concerning this conference there is already a consensus among the member countries. However, there are discrepancies concerning the form and substance of the conference, especially on the part of the United States which does not desire that that meeting turn into a new debate in which the Latin American and the Caribbean countries again raise the point of access to U.S. markets.

Collados Speaks on Debt

PY310150 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The responsibility on the foreign debt must be shared by the debtor countries in the region and by the industrialized countries, the international private banks, and the international organizations. This statement was made by Chilean Economy Minister Modesto Collados upon opening the meeting of Inter-American Economic and Social Council [IA-Ecosoc] ministers.

[Begin recording] The foreign debt issue cannot be solved solely by isolated talks with the banks. These talks must be joined by a definition and acceptance of general outlines, policies for restructuring and financing which serve as a reference to the individuals negotations conducted by each country. [end recording]

Collados said that the volume of exports has increased while incomes have declines, something which, doubtlessly, elicits a feeling of frustration and helplessness in the countries troubled by this situation. Instead of adjusting themselves to the new situation of the competitors, the industrialized countries have fallen prey to the temptation of protectionism, Collados said.

[Begin recording] Currently protectionism is more violent and more profound and is taking place precisely when a safe and stable access to the markets is a critical need for our country. Other restrictions are added to the existing ones, such as in the field of steel industry. Numerous and strong pressures on other products have appeared as is the case with copper, something which severely affects my country. [end recording]

Collados was clear, tough, and brave, according to the observers at this international economic forum.

[Begin recording] The deterioration in trade relations has not been overcome, not by the solemn statements voiced at summits held at the highest level nor by the negotiation of multilateral commitments such as the GATT ministers' statement in 1982, just to mention some of the more relevant occasions.

On the contrary, the reality of protectionism has steadily and gradually eroded the credibility of these testimonies of political willingness. What is required now is a resolute and energetic action by which the industrialized countries assume the responsibilities emerging from their influence and participation in international trade. In this regard, a good start would be that those countries be more consistent with their commitments and obligations of trade policies and that, as a result of the latter, they refrain from adopting new restrictions and suspend or reduce the existing ones. [end recording]

In this connection, our main interlocutor and partner, the United States, plays a leading role, Collados said.

[Begin recording] In short, the liberalization of trade is the only way of ensuring the conditions that will permit Latin America and the Caribbean to service their foreign debt and guarantee a stable and steady economic development. But the path of liberalization is a two-way street and must be developed for the mutual interest of all parties involved. In fact, only to the extent that our purchasing and paying capabilities are substantially strengthened will we be able to continue to be important and growing markets for the exports of the industrialized countries. [end recording]

Justice and development are conditions that are indispensable for peace, Collados stated. Another indispensable condition is that our nations gain more and better levels of welfare since, as long as subhuman living conditions remain, our social and political stability will be in jeopardy.

GRINSPUN TO ATTEND IA-ECOSOC MEETING IN CHILE

PY302244 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun will leave for Chile today at 1810 to attend the annual meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council [IA-ECOSOC] The minister, who will stay in Santiago until 2 September, will not only attend the OAS agency meeting and take part in the drawing up of the final document, but will also hold meetings with the economy ministers of the region with a view toward the second meeting to be held by the Cartagena group on 13 and 14 September in Mar del Plata.

CGT PROPOSES GUIDELINES FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

PY301622 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2232 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Aug (AFP) -- The General Confederation of Labor [CGT] called for support for the "productive fatherland" against the "financial fatherland" in order to bring about the reactivation of the nation's economy. This was stated in a document approved today during a plenary meeting of CGT secretaries general at which it was also decided to stage a 24-hour strike on Monday, 3 September.

The preamble of the declaration states that "it is impossible to accept that when official statistics estimate the cost of living of an average family at 33,000 pesos, there could be any discussion at all about a 16,000-peso salary which, by taking away all bonuses, including those granted for seniority, is being reduced rather than increased in order to cope with current needs."

The proposal stated in the declaration is addressed to "the government, productive sectors, political and social organizations, and businessmen. It advocates a "program for economic recovery" based on the following guidelines:

"1. Defeating the financial fatherland by reinstating the role of the currency as a means of production at the service of man and putting an end to monetary speculation.

"2. Acknowledging that wages are the worker's only vital asset and that the worker and his employer are the only ones who should establish them through collective bargaining, while the state must merely act as an arbiter to guarantee fair and equitable negotiations.

"3. Giving back to bank credits their status of public service designed to promote production, stabilizing bank interests so as to make it possible to plan productive activities without fear of unexpected developments, and guaranteeing correct handling and distribution of said credit to make sure that it is channeled to serve national interests.

"4. Encouraging production and avoiding restrictions on demand to make it possible for the salary to stimulate the supply of goods and services and productive activities in general.

"5. Guaranteeing duly supervised and straightforward handling of foreign trade to prevent the squandering of resources and the flight of profits abroad.

"6. Placing the reactivation of the nation's productive means above and beyond any financial requirements, obligations, or needs.

"7. Establishing a realistic tax policy that will take into account the means and possibilities of the taxpayer and will not leave room for maneuvering or tax evasion.

"8. Putting an end to the system of sudden utility and fuel price hikes, which are merely another way of exacting additional taxes that unfairly affect utility users and fuel consumers by increasing costs and destabilizing prices, thus worsening the harmful effects of inflation.

"9. Devising a policy of full employment and maximum utilization of available industrial capacity.

"10. Promoting the development of national techniques capable of giving us access to the leading positions within the international framework, which we once enjoyed, and lessening the effects of the "shock" [in English] caused by the incorporation of new imported technologies in the field of labor development."

The CGT plenary meeting also discussed a document entitled "Call for National Greatness: Up With Productive Activities, Down With Financial Speculation." This declaration states that "democracy must also imply equitable distribution of assets produced by the community."

In order to achieve this, the declaration calls "upon the government, the productive sectors, political and social organizations, and businessmen" to immediately foresake the "negative philosophy inherited from the (military) process and join efforts in a kind of national referendum that would vote out the financial fatherland and reaffirm the desire to rebuild the productive fatherland, to which we all belong."

GOVERNMENT REACTS TO CGT DECISION TO STRIKE

PY301630 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The newspaper LA NACION today reports that the General Confederation of Labor [CGT] has ordered a 24-hour nationwide strike on 3 September and that it has also suspended its participation in the government-business-labor socioeconomic talks until an acceptable conventional minimum salary is established.

The CGT decision provoked an immediate reaction from the government. A high-ranking government official from the Casa Rosada said that the right to strike, which is a constitutional mechanism and a democratic instrument, will be respected. The general secretary of the presidency, German Lopez, said that although the strike will not cause a break in relations between the CGT and the government, it has not been a positive decision.

UNIONS REJECT CGT CALL FOR NATIONWIDE STRIKE

CGEC Displeased by Exclusion

PY310120 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2206 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (NA) -- The General Confederation of Business Employees [CGEC], with almost 300,000 members, today reported to the General Confederation of Labor [CGT] that it has chosen to ignore "any decision adopted" by the plenary session which on 29 August called for a national strike to be held on Monday, 3 September, because it was not invited to participate in that meeting.

In a telegram addressed to Saul Ubaldini, one of the CGT's secretaries general, the CGEC expressed its displeasure for having been excluded and challenged the role of Armando Cavalieri as representative of the CGEC in the CGT board council.

Cavalieri, who is the CGT press secretary, represents the Business Employees Union in the capital, which belongs to the Business Union Front which expressly adheres to the 3 September stoppage.

MNRS: Strike 'Erosive'

PY310055 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2228 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (TELAM) -- The National Movement for Trade Union Renewal [Movimiento Nacional de Renovacion Sindical] (MNRS) today decided not to join the nationwide stoppage called by the unified General Confederation of Labor [CGT] because it considers that such a stoppage has strictly political connotations with erosive intentions, an objective which most workers repudiate.

This is what the MNRS states in a communique signed by Nestor Rompani and Hugo Silva, MNRS secretary general and press secretary, respectively. This communique states that the MNRS agrees with the claims, strictly speaking, but notes that halting the country's activities will not support production or the economic recovery and this is the best way of serving the interests of usury, the oligarchy, and, in sum, the privileged sectors.

TV WORKERS TO HOLD 2-HOUR WORK STOPPAGES

PY310115 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1531 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Aug (TELAM) -- The Argentine Television Workers Union has decided to hold 2-hour on the job stoppages on each shift. These stoppages will begin at 0000 tomorrow, 31 August, but the workers will be present at their work sites. This measure was adopted due to the nonfulfillment of promises for salary increases agreed upon with the employers. Channel 9 is not affected by this measure.

The report was revealed today by a communique released by the Television Workers Union and signed by its secretary general, Enrique Ferradas Campos. The communique states that this coercive measure was adopted during a general meeting, and that it affects the following television stations in the federal capital: LS 82 channel 7 Argentina Televisora Color, LS 84 TV channel 11, and LS 85 channel 13.

The communique adds that the decision was adopted due to the failure of the business sector to fulfill the agreements signed with the union which establish the appropriate salary increase for the months of March, April, May, and June 1984. The stoppages will begin tomorrow from 0000 to 0200; from 0800 to 1000; from 1230 to 1430; and from 1930 to 2130.

SILES, UDP CONFIRM INTERIOR MINISTER IN POST

PY302015 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo and the National Executive Committee [CEN] of the ruling coalition the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] today gave full support for Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata, who had met with a motion of censure from the Senate. This took place in the course of a meeting held at Government Palace to examine the overall situation in the country and the motion of censure, which the interior minister received as a result of his interpellation in Congress.

Oscar Eid, the leader of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], speaking about the matter indicated that the motion of censure against Minister Federico Alvarez Plata is an example of an overt antigovernment strategy with political implications. He explained that the ratification of support meant the confirmation of Alvarez Plata as interior minister, but that it was too early to say whether this could give rise to a conflict between the two branches. In any case, he said, it demonstrated the cohesion within the government regarding the management of state affairs.

[Begin Eid recording] A significant portion of the evaluation conducted today by the CEN of the UDP with President Hernan Siles Zuazo presiding had to do with yesterday's events in the Senate where Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata received a motion of censure. The president of the nation and the CEN of the UDP have extended their full support to Minister Alvarez and his resignation was not accepted. The president has confirmed him in office and he continues to participate in the current talks. As for the CEN, it has given him full political support.

This is the reaction of the government coalition and the Christian Democratic Party to the strategy which is being carried out, a strategy that yesterday undoubtedly found its target in Minister Alvarez Plata, because to criticize this government for violating human rights is the most contradictory action one can undertake. By doing this, the Senate has made it obvious that it is engaged in the type of strategy we are denouncing and has put the power entrusted to it by the people to very poor use. We believe that it has acted incorrectly and that the people will see through what has happened in the Senate. We also believe that the attitude of the ruling coalition is the best response to this antigovernment strategy that is being developed.

Thus, the government is displaying cohesion and will respond in the most democratic way possible to these actions [words indistinct] aimed at paralyzing the government and preventing it from carrying out its tasks, something which would enable to opposition to obtain some political benefits at the expense of the democratic process and a worsening of the current situation, especially in the economic field. [end recording]

AVIATION MINISTER ON SOVIET, CUBAN AIRLINE RIGHTS

PY301712 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Aug 84 p 6

[Excerpt] General Antonio Arnez Camacho, the Bolivian minister of aeronautics, has categorically denied that the Soviet airline Aeroflot has been granted permission to operate in Bolivia. General Arnez Camacho also indicated that the Cuban airline Cubana de Aviacion has not submitted any formal request to operate in Bolivia.

LECHIN ILL, WILL NOT ATTEND COB CONGRESS

PY302155 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] During a telephone conversation with this station, Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo reported that he will not attend the sixth COB congress as he is ill. Lechin said that his doctor has ordered him to stay in bed for at least 20 days. Asked whether he will not attend the COB congress because of health reasons, he said that he has to obey his doctor, who also forbade him to carry out any strenuous activities.

INTERIOR UNDER SECRETARY ON ANTIDRUG OPERATION

PY301425 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Recent antidrug operations under the leadership of Interior Under Secretary Gustavo Sanchez Salazar have so far netted $25 million in assets and U.S. currency. This is what Sanchez had to say at a press conference he gave yesterday:

[Begin recording] [Sanchez] These (?suitcases) were found with drugs inside, drugs that I will show you later because the seized drugs are at another warehouse where the journalists can see it and also watch it being weighed, which will be done under the supervision of Colonel Odriana, head of the drug enforcement department.

[Unidentified reporter] Can you tell us more about the amount of the drugs confiscated?

[Sanchez] Unless our estimates are way off the mark, I would say that there are some 270 kg. [end recording]

Sanchez Salazar described the operations as a hard blow to the drug trafficking business, which had grown in Bolivia over the last 2 years, and said that the operations are being carried out by the Bolivian police, who are following government guidelines to the letter. He also revealed that in the course of operations, the police discovered arms bearing the seal of the Bolivian Armed Forces and that this is currently being investigated.

He indicated that the seized drugs will be placed in the custody of the Central Bank. He remarked that the article of (Jose Ali Parada), who claims that reports about antidrug operations are untrue, is part of an antigovernment campaign because facts belie (Ali Parada's) claim.

PEASANTS BLOCK RAILROAD LINK WITH ARGENTINA

PY301342 La Paz Candena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The railroad link between Bolivia and Argentina was blocked today by peasants in the hamlet of Labezas, Cordillera Province, Santa Cruz Department. The civic committee of this district decided to take this action in view of the departmental authorities' lack of interest in beginning to dredge the Rio Grande de San Juan which threatens the region of Abapo, (Isosoc), and Cabezas. Our correspondent has reported from Camiri, the oil capital:

[Begin recording] The international railroad line has been blocked since 0000 on Thursday, 30 August. The civic committee of Cabezas, a county of Cordillera Province, Santa Cruz Department, has blocked the railroad bridge over the Rio Grande, thus severing the railroad link between Bolivia and Argentina, and it is prepared to maintain this position to the bitter end.

This extreme measure was announced by the members of the civic committee, who want the Rio Grande dredged immediately because ever since last year's floods the breakers near the bridge have been damaged and the next flood could make the river change course, severely harming the settlers along its banks. [end recording]

LATEST LETTER OF INTENT TO IMF 'MORE FLEXIBLE'

PY301702 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "More Flexible IMF"]

[Text] The sixth letter of intent to be signed between Brazil and the IMF will be softer, finally. The IMF experts have accepted the statements of government officials about possible mistakes regarding previous monetary projections. Although the monetary base expansion goal set at 95 percent is still contractionary, considering the inflation rate is now hovering at 200 percent, there are indications that the intensity of the recession will be attenuated.

It should be recalled that the initially stipulated 1984 goal for monetary base expansion was 50 percent. The impossibility of fulfilling this prompted the monetary authorities to negotiate for an increase to 100 percent, which still is an unrealistic goal.

That the Brazilian inflationary process is cost-push rather than demand-pull in nature has been subject to practical demonstration and realization for some time, although this had not been accepted by the IMF economists, according to reports. The greater flexibility in the goal of the monetary base expansion now made possible by the IMF, as well as the establishment of less restrictive limits for the public deficit, gives the impression that the aforementioned thesis regarding the main cause of the Brazilian inflationary process has received the unexpected support of the IMF.

By now it should be quite clear what the objectives of the IMF missions that periodically visit us are. Essentially, they limit themselves to imposing lines of economic policy to make possible a flow of foreign exchange sufficient for the country to meet its foreign commitments. Any other objectives are secondary.

The fight against inflation, the control of the public deficit, the elimination of the price-reducing subsidies, and the improvement of the methods of financing government expenditures are supported only to the extent that they might bolster Brazil's capacity for making payments in strong currencies. In fact, the country's trade balance has demonstrated that the results thus expected by the IMF can be achieved, as proven by the cash surplus of $6-7 billion, regardless of the heavy sacrifices that achievement has imposed on the Brazilian people.

Their milder manners notwithstanding, the IMF experts are insisting on the need to maintain an austere economic policy, alleging that the monetary targets have not been met due to the government's "lack of political will," supposedly because it does not believe in the adjustment program they have prescribed. Furthermore, they are critical of the protective structure for domestic industry, calling for import liberalization measures that not even the developed countries are applying, despite the enthusiasm of the recommendations made to Brazil.

The current economic policy will probably be maintained, but in a less severe form. It should also be improved in such a way as to provide for possible differences between Brazil's reality and the orthodox theoretical models after which it has been patterned.

Public expenses will continue to be controlled and the expected fiscal surpluses will be sterilized by being transformed to the monetary budget. This way, the mechanisms to control the monetary support should be fine-tuned, inasmuch as limiting the expansion of the monetary base alone proved insufficient to keep liquidity at the desire level.

The targets that will be included in the sixth letter of intent are encouraging, up to a point. They do not reveal any fundamental change in Brazil's economic policy. The new targets will, however, provide more flexibility in the conduct of the IMF's monetarist policy. In this sense, they can indicate that the IMF will give more support for the initial resumption of the economic recovery that has been observed this past year.

CONGRESS TO DEBATE DIRECT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

PY301358 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Under pressure from party leaders and nearly 60 congressmen, who were surprised at the unanimous decision by the Justice Committee in favor of voting on the amendment, Congress President Moacyr Dalla had nothing else to do but ask for a week to decide whether he should include the Theodoro Mendes constitutional amendment reestablishing direct presidential elections in the congressional agenda. When he made that request, he cautiously declared himself in favor of voting on the amendment.

When asked by a journalist whether he had to consult with the Planalto Palace before making a decision, Dalla reacted by asking: Do they ask me anything when they want to decide anything? Asked another question, Dalla irritably responded: Do you believe I am a puppet? I have really assumed the presidency of Congress, making it clear that I will make decisions, in accordance with technical considerations. He then promised to adopt a decision that will go into Brazil's history books.

The approval of the direct elections amendment may produce yet another turnaround in the presidential succession process, and the Workers Party [PT], the Democratic Labor Party [PDT], and the Brazilian Labor Party [PTB] are already considering the possibility of having their own presidential candidates to succeed President Joao Figueiredo, should the Theodoro Mendes amendment be approved by Congress. The Brazilian Democratic Movement Party [PMDB] would have to call a new national convention to decide whether Tancredo Neves should continue to be the party's candidate.

The opposition believes that the Theodoro Mendes amendment will be easily be approved in the House of Representatives, although its approval in the Senate will be threatened by the pro-Maluf senators. According to Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila, President Figueiredo will abide by the congressional decision, no matter what it is, because the president is a true democrat who follows constitutional rules very strictly. The country is reawakening to the struggle for direct presidential elections now.

DEFIM NETTO TO VISIT NEW YORK, LONDON

PY300137 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Planning Minister Delfim Netto will leave for New York tonight. He is due to stay in the United States, where he will exchange information on financial matters, until 4 September, when he will leave New York for London with the same objective. Jose Botafogo Goncalves, the secretary of international economic and technical cooperation, has told the BRAZILIAN NEWS AGENCY that the minister will make an evaluation of the international economic situation during his visit in New York and London. According to Botafogo Goncalves, the minister will return to Brasilia at the end of the next week.

FIGUEIREDO ON RESIGNATIONS OVER MALUF SUPPORT

PY300100 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Brasilia -- (Milton Sander), the president of the municipal confederation, has said that during an audience granted to the confederation, President Joao Figueiredo refused to grant a request from 18 Rio Grande do Sul and Uanta Catarina mayors to dismiss high-ranking government officials who do not support Paulo Maluf. According to (Sander), Figueiredo said that he has not asked anybody to resign and that those who did resign did it of their own accord. The president expressed his displeasure and annoyance at those people, whom he referred to as ungrateful.

NEVES PREDICTS MALUF RESIGNATION, DISCOUNTS COUP

PY290400 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 28 Aug 84 p 2

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Tancredo Neves, the Democratic Alliance presidential candidate, predicted yesterday that his opponent Paulo Maluf will resign, and consequently, that the succession will be destabilized. However, he rejected the possibility of a military coup, because he feels that "the country's democratic awareness has developed greatly."

Tense and tired, Neves justified his prediction with surveys which, according to him, prove that Maluf's candidacy is totally without support, and which give him a guaranteed victory by at least 120 or 130 votes, "were the elections held today."

The surveys carried out by absolutely reliable institutions -- Tancredo stated -- have shown an average of up to 80 percent in my favor. In Rio Grande do Sul, for instance, Maluf only obtained 5 percent of the votes. This is very dangerous because the lack of support for his candidacy will lead him to resign. This will cause a tremendous impact such that we do not know what may happen.

Neves warned, however, that the opposition will not allow Maluf's eventual resignation to disturb the succession process. The problem that could emerge, Neves added, is that concerning the organization of the succession process: to replace the candidate, the Social Democratic Party must hold a new convention and must mobilize the party anew. All this creates problems.

Playing with a key ring in his hands to conceal his nervousness, Neves declined to comment on the Order of the Day read by Army Minister Walter Pires. He said that he is not used to making comments on military documents, but in view of the reporters' insistance, he said that he sees the Armed Forces "working within their constitutional limits."

Some reporters wanted to know his opinion about the coup threats which, according to one of them, are being promoted by politicans who support Maluf's candidacy. Neves answered: The threat of a coup is absolutely unrealistic. The people do not support it. There are no sociopolitical conditions to justify a movement of that nature. There are no preconditions to justify a coup.

PINOCHET EXPLAINS REMARKS ON OPPOSITION RESURGENCE

PY301547 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet has explained that his allusion to a new 11 September event is only ideological in nature. He explained that the reference to this event was only aimed at conveying to some politicians and the people that the government is not going to be overwhelmed by the opposition.

My words, said Pinochet, were aimed at the ideological struggle, intended to prevent the actions of a few from destroying the meaning of the 11 September event and the struggle we have been carrying out for the last few years. He added that he has always maintained that the Armed Forces did not fight on 11 September to install a government. We fought, he said, to defend the nation, to defend the soul of Chile, because it was being destroyed and the priority obligation of the Armed Forces is to defend it.

Pinochet recalled that our national symbols and values were being forgotten, destroyed, and replaced by foreign ones. The president also reiterated that the opposition only wants to obtain power. He went on to say that it is very difficult to achieve consensus and unity in Chile because our country has been divided since the beginning of its history, even since colonial times.

He added that unfortunately, historically speaking, it has been very difficult to achieve unity in Chile. Despite this, he said, we will continue working in search of unity for our great national principles. Unity cannot be achieved by official resolution because it depends on education and on the beliefs of the people.

During his conversation with the press the president also said that Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa is fulfilling his mission and that no cabinet members have resigned. Commenting on the resignation of Labor Minister Hugo Galves, the president said that the resignation is still under study. In relation to other matters, the president said that he has the support of over 51 percent of the population, except for a few sectors in Santiago [as heard]. Regarding labor reforms, he said that they will be implemented in accordance with the announcements made on 11 March and 1 May 1984.

Pinochet also indicated that there are no disagreements between the executive and legislative branches and that if disagreements appear they are resolved during the meetings he holds with the members of the legislative branch. The president said that he was not sure if the law on political parties is going to be promulgated on 11 September. He added that the differences over this law are being resolved, pointing out that the differences are over the formation of regional parties and the number of signatures required to create political organizations.

Regarding the existence of foreign terrorists in the country, Pinochet said, using military terms, that the report has a B-level credibility. In other words, we know they have entered but we do not know they are still here and this is where we stand [sabemos que han entrado pero no sabemos que estan aqui y permanecemos asi]. Regarding Chile and its future, Pinochet said that he sees the future of Chile as peaceful.

CNT LEADERS URGE PARTICIPATION IN STRIKE

PY302230 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Referring to the government's continuous refusal to answer demands of the labor sector and the prohibition against the rally called by the National Workers Command [CNT] which is to take place at the Caupolican Theater this evening, leader Manuel Bustos said that today, more than ever before, there are good reasons to hold a nationwide stoppage.

[Begin Bustos recording] The CNT believes that today, more than ever before, there are good reasons for a nationawide strike. There are no two ways about it, because we've made every effort to get the government to listen to us, but we've failed. No sector has been heard, including our comrades in state firms, professionals who complain about the social problems they are confronting, and political groups. The government has turned a deaf ear to all sectors and it has even removed ministers who have proposed minimal reforms in good faith, at least I think they did it in good faith. [end recording]

During a press conference, the top CNT leaders reiterated their call for workers to unite more than ever before and to participate in the protest set for 4 and 5 September. In this regard,Rodolfo Seguel said:

[Begin Sequel recording] The CNT reiterates its call and it begs all Chilean sectors to unite. Moreover, we ask all Chileans who have confidence in the CNT to participate in the protest set for 4 and 5 September because all peaceful actions carried out will be of fundamental importance.

Attempts are being made to force us to engage in violent actions and to resort to force once again, but the workers and the people must not yield to this pressure. Let us act peacefully and show that we are struggling to recover what belongs to us.[end recording]

During the press conference, the CNT leaders described the acts slated for this afternoon. The CNT leaders announced that they will go to the Caupolican Theater this afternoon to explain the situation to the people who gather there.

Rodolfo Seguel expressed his condolences to the families of the five mineworkers who died as a result of a landslide in a mine located in the Second Region.

Sequel concluded by announcing that the CNT will file another injunction in favor of leader Hector Cuevas, who has been living in exile for 3 years. Cuevas' health has deteriorated over the past few days and his life is in danger.

RADICAL PARTY CONDEMNS ASSAULT ON OFFICES

PY302142 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] [In progrsss] ...said that the government must identify the culprits of yesterday's assault on the Radical Party offices and put them at the disposal of the courts.

In a public statement, the Radical Party said that a group of armed men stormed into its offices and stole party documents and several packages containing leaflets and brochures on the peaceful protest slated for 4 and 5 September. The stolen documents instructed the people on nonviolent actions to be carried out during the protest.

The Radical Party repudiated the assault and said that it is connected with the death threats that have been made to Radical Party President Enrique Silva Cimma. According to letters received by the party, these threats are to be put into effect this month.

[Begin recording by unidentified speaker] The government is responsible for public order. For this reason, it must investigate the incident, identify the culprits, and put them at the disposal of the courts. However, the public knows perfectly well that people carry out this kind of actions and also knows why they are not punished.

The Radical Party believes that attempts are being made to intimidate those of us who are struggling for a return to democracy through a nonviolent social mobilization. This peaceful mobilization will be evidenced during the upcoming protest slated for 4 and 5 September. These groups will not attain their objective because the Chilean people and the Radical Party members are aware of the risks this struggle poses and they are determined to confront them forcefully and bravely. [end recording]

This situation, the Radical Party said, shows the need for all Chileans who love democracy to peacefully raise their voices during the upcoming protest and to demand the restoration of the Chile we all desire, of the Chile where peace, justice, and solidarity will prevail.

HUMANIST PARTY MEMBERS ARRESTED, TORTURED

PY301714 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 25 Aug 84 p 14

[Text] The leadership of the Chilean Humanist Party yesterday reported the violent arrest of five party members, among them Jose Feres, a member of the party's Political Commission.

The Humanist Party released a declaration which, among other things, stated:

"At 2030 yesterday, Jose Feres, a member of the Humanist Party Political Commission, and four other party members, including two women, were violently arrested by Carabineros at the entrance of Feres' home at 349 Rosal Street and taken to the 1st Police Precinct."

The communique added: "At that precinct station, despite their protests and explanations, they were bound with cold strips of cloth, interrogated, offended, threatened, and beaten on the napes of their necks, ears, backs, and lower abdomens. After being subjected to this inhuman treatment, they were released once they signed a declaration in which they were labeled suspects in the robbery of an armory."

TERRORIST CELL DISMANTLED IN FIFTH REGION

PY301739 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] A terrorist cell that was operating in the Aconcagua Valley has been dismantled. The terrorists are members of the Communist Party and connected to the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, the armed group of the Communist Party.

In an official communique, the Fifth Region established the identity of the four terrorists. They are: (Victor Gustavo Caballero Azurillo), farmer; (Leonel Arnoldo Olade Gallardo), worker; (Luis Fernandez Contreras) retired; and (Guadalupe Vargas Ramirez), dressmaker. They are responsible for several terrorist attacks in the region.

EIGHT ARRESTED AT LAW, ENGINEERING SCHOOLS

PY302005 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1715 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Eight people, students and architects, were arrested by police during incidents at the Law School and the Engineering College today. In another incident a businessman named (Wilson) ran his car intentionally over law student (Claudia Donaire Gaeto), 18 years of age, who was taken to the Salvador Hospital with cuts and bruises.

After the car incident the students took over the School of Law until the real condition of the student was made known. Three students were arrested. Then incidents began in the Engineering College during which another five people were arrested. Two of them were identified as architects (Raul Bustos) and (Javiera Torres).

PERUVIAN FISHING BOATS DETAINED IN ARICA

PY302145 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Three more Peruvian fishing boats were caught this morning illegally fishing in Chilean jurisdictional waters. The Peruvian fishing boats (La Ponderosa), (La Jojona), and (Jessica), entered Chilean jurisdictional waters, fully aware of their position, to carry out fishing activities, given the fact that the Peruvian coast is not very good for fishing, the crew members stated. This is the second time that the (Jessica) has been caught fishing in Chilean waters.

These fishing vessels left the Peruvian port of Vilavila, north of Tacna, and at 0430 this morning they were taken by surprise by the Chilean patrol boat Antuco of the Arica maritime authority, and the Navy personnel immediately took action and escorted them to the port of Arica, where they docked at pier No 1.

At this moment, the owners of the boats, upon testifying before the naval authority, Maritime Governor Captain Guillermo Aranda Pinochet, are awaiting the decision for the payment of the appropriate fines to return to their country.

FRENCH CONSULATE IN BOGOTA 'PEACEFULLY' OCCUPIED

PA302012 Paris AFP in Spanish 1944 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Bogota, 30 Aug (AFP) -- The 11 masked individuals who today occupied the French Consulate in Bogota have asked the Colombian Government to expand the peace talks and dialogue to include the mass organizations in the country. The masked men and women entered the consulate at 1700 GMT without showing any weapons and immediately asked to meet with French Ambassador Pierre de Boisdeffre.

One of the occupiers told AFP over the telephone that "we do not have links with the guerrillas" and explained that "we are residents of various regions of Colombia who hope for solutions to the country's social problems." After insisting that the consulate was occupied "peacefully," the spokesman of the occupiers said that 25 people were involved. However, it has been confirmed that 11 individuals are involved. He said they belong to "the secretariat of the coordinating board of Colombian civic movements."

"We represent local, municipal, and departmental communities throughout Colombia that want to denounce that to date there has been no solution to the people's social problems," the spokesman added. "We are covering up our faces for security reasons," he said, adding that they presented to Ambassador Boisdeffre a document entitled: "The National Dialogue and Peace Must Also Be Established With the Mass Organizations."

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO PHILIPPINES -- Ramiro Zambrano Cardenas, Colombia's current ambassador to the ROK, has been appointed nonresident ambassador to the Philippines. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Aug 84 p 7A PA]

INDONESIA, NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADORS — Bogota, 29 Aug (AFP) -- The new nonresident ambassadors from Indonesia and New Zealand, D. Soetade and Robert Bennett, presented their credentials today to Colombian President Belisario Betancur. Soetade also represents his country in Brazil. Bennett is also ambassador to Peru. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 2249 GMT 29 Aug 84 PA]

OPPOSITION LEADER CONTACTS URUGUAYAN PARTIES

PY301922 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 19 Aug 84 p 12

[Excerpts] The representative of the Radical Liberal Paety of Paraguay in Buenos Aires, Rafael Saguier, has told EL DIA that "after a short period of apparent political liberalization, the regime of Alfredo Stroessner has returned to obscurantism, in which death threats and coercion are the main characteristics." The representative of the Paraguayan political party has contacted the leaders of the Colorado Party, the Blanco Party, and the Broad Front, seeking "the contribution of their militancy to the installation of a democracy that will erase the stigma of a government with a feudal way of thinking in my country, where elections have been shameless frauds." He told the story of what he called a farce, the "cosmetics" of political liberalization that began in December 1983.

The security system in Paraguay is strict. Coercion is practically institutionalized. Surveilance of mail, communications, etc. is undeniable. The closing of ABC COLOR and the suspension of Radio Nanduti, two independent news sources in Paraguay, are examples of a harsh reality. After a short silence, Saguier added: "When we enter Paraguay, we are asked for a long list of information. We are taken to a police office. Recently, the police raided my residence when I was out of Asuncion and searched through all my papers." Colorado Popular Movement leader Gonzalez Casabiancia is being submitted to a new intimidating procedure. When he wants to leave the country, he must notify the police 48 hours in advance. No political meetings are allowed in public places, and those who hold such meetings at home are detained. It is a system of persecution resembling nazism.

[Question] General Stroessner calls elections every 5 years, and comes out a winner every time. What do you think of these elections?

[Saguier] They are a shameless, cynical, and outright fraud. The votes are not cast in a secret room and the pollwatchers cannot supervise the voting. This is well known and anyone in Paraguay can attest to it. The newspaper ABC COLOR published information on irregularities. Were the elections free of manipulation and held in a climate of real freedom, Stroessner would not get even 5 percent of the votes. Stroessner is inept, he cannot make a speech, and he is corrupt. He is the owner of REPSA (Paraguayan Refinery Inc.), and with the profits this company has made, all the houses needed in the country could have been built. This is unbelievable but true."

[Question] What is the objective of the contacts you have made with Uruguayan political leaders?

[Saguier] I have met with leaders of the Colorado Party, the Blanco Party, and the Broad Front to request an expression of solidarity with the cause of the Paraguayan people, so that these leaders can refer to our problems with a militant, active, and decisive attitude, so that they can promote, in various ways, the gradual democratizationof Paraguay.

[Question] Have opposition leaders like yourself measures the risk involved in your political activities?

[Saquier] I will be frank. We know that we are walking on a tightrope and that we can fall off. But we have to run this risk in defense of the ideal of a pluralistic democracy, and in demand of the greater well-being of the Paraguayan people.

BELAUNDE FAVORS SHINING PATH TRUCE, NOT DIALOGUE

PY301742 Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0550 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Upon leaving Government Palace yesterday, Housing Minister Javier Velarde said: "President Belaunder has proposed a truce to provide guarantees in the Ayacucho area, but not a dialogue with the Shining Path, which he simply believes to be not feasible."

PERCOVICH DISCUSSES SHINING PATH FINANCING

PY301507 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 1324 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Interior Minister Luis Percovich today announced that the Shining Path is financing its criminal activities by selling pamphlets in Spain, France, and Great Britain. He also announced that he will leave his ministerial post in October, and reported on the situation of the killers of peasant leader Jesus Oropeza.

[Begin recording] [Percovich] I believe that in my position as interior minister I am not the authority to make statements on the replacement of General Huaman. He is an Army general, and he has an institutional command over him, and so this command can give any information on why he is being transferred to Lima. Anyway, I believe that the communique issued yesterday by the Army command explains those reasons.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister: For some time President Belaunde has charged that the terrorist movement is financed from abroad.

[Percovich] We have concrete information that pamphlets, which we have in our hands, are being sold in Spain, propagandizing the subversive movement in Peru. I imagine that the funds so collected are used to finance subversion in Peru. The price of a pamphlet is 35 pesetas. We are coordinating work with the Spanish police not only to find who is distributing these pamphlets, but also their connection with the subversives in Peru.

[Reporter] Mr Minister: Why has the information about the Oropeza case been delayed?

[Percovich] That's not true. In the first place, when the initial information was requested, the Puquio command sent false information, as was proven during the trip made there by a commission.

[Reporter] So was the information false?

[Percovich] Obviously, and that's why the charges include not only murder but also negligence, abuse of authority, and concealment.

[Reporter] What is the status of the civil guardsmen who are implicated in the case?

[Percovich] They have been turned over to the court.

[Reporter] Rumor has it that you are going to resign in order to run for the Senate, perhaps because of the pressure of events?

[Percovich] No, the latest events are not putting any pressure on me. At the congressional session last night, I fully explained the legal jurisdiction under which the interior minister can operate, and I believe the explanation satisfied the congressmen. My departure from the Interior Ministry, as I have said many times, depends on the nation's president. But I cannot deny that since I am a politician, the party may offer me the opportunity to run in the coming elections. [end recording]

12,000 MARCH TO PROTEST DISAPPEARANCES

PY310315 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0114 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Montevideo, 30 Aug (TELAM) -- Approximately 12,000 people tonight marched in downtown Montevideo on the occasion of the international protest day against disappearances in Latin America.

Representatives of Uruguayan, Argentine, Chilean and Paraguayan human rights organizations and of political parties, unions, and student organizations demonstrated along the 18 de Julio Avenue shouting antigovernment slogans and demanding that all the missing people be returned alive.

Relatives of some of the missing people carried their portraits. It is believed that approximately 150 Uruguayan citizens have disappeared in Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay.

No incidents occurred during the demonstration.

BRIEFS

NEW INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- On 15 August a new newspaper will be published in Montevideo. It is called TIEMPO DE CAMBIO and will be an independent morning newspaper whose director will be journalist Enrique Alonso Fernandez. [Text] [Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 84 PY]

REAL WAGES DROP -- Montevideo, 22 Aug (EFE) -- According to official data released by the General Directorate of Statistics and Census today, the real wages of Uruguayan workers registered a spectacular decrease over the past few months. The purchasing power of wages decreased by 4.32 percent in June, which represents 50 percent of the decrease registered during the first half of the year. According to the official figures, wages have dropped 8.40 percent from January and 9.17 percent over the past 12 months. Similarly, the inflation rate increased 40 percent during the first half of 1984, which is very close to the 45-percent increase foreseen by the de facto regime for 1984. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0051 GMT 23 Aug 84 PY]

OFFICIAL REACTS TO U.S. SENATE STATEMENTS ON GATT

PA301610 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 29 Aug 84 pp 1, 9

[Article by Rogelio Hernandez]

[Text] Oliver Farrez, director of economic relations of the Mexican Foreign Secretariat, yesterday said that Mexico cannot accept relations with the United States that are aimed at imposing individual or party interests. What the Mexican Government wants are relations between the two countries that are effective, based on respect, and aimed at safeguarding national interests, he said.

Commenting on statements in the U.S. Senate noting that the adjustments to be made to the GATT must include an effort to exert pressure on Mexico for it to abide by the GATT or become ineligible for preferential treatment, Farrez noted that this is a cycle that occurs every 4 years, and in which comments of this type against Mexico are made. Farrez, who was interviewed at the end of a ceremony to present CEMA officials in Mexico City, added that this occurs during periods of electoral activity.

Mexico has not accepted and never will accept pressures on its international trade policy, he remarked, clarifying that it must also be stated that Mexico has not been formally pressured.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat official explained that the phrase "become concerned" should not be used in regard to an adjustment to the way the GATT operates. Mexico will not become concerned, he stressed, until this becomes official. Only then will it be time to respond, Farrez added.

It must be said that among the many statements aimed at exerting pressure, some refer to the enforcement of current regulations in this type of economic relations. For example, he added, there are those that refer to the elimination of products not covered in existing regulations.

Farrez explained that because of our intense and complex relations with the United States, systematic and maximum efforts are being made for negotiations at all levels in international and economic forums so that Mexican viewpoints and businesses can be protected and safeguarded.

What the Mexican Government wants, he stressed, are relations between the two countries that are more effective and will therefore protect the interests of our country.

PAN LEADER ON ATTENDANCE AT REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

PA302149 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 29 Aug 84 p 3

[Report by Jose Luis Camacho]

[Text] Jesus Gonzalez Schmall, National Action Party [PAN] secretary of international relations and one of the party's delegates to the U.S. Republican Party convention, said yesterday that "PAN's actions in the international field are based on its council's decisions and on its principles."

The PAN leader said that "parties cannot be isolated; there are interdependencies," and announced that his party will continue to broaden its "international relations."

Gonzalez Schmall admitted that PAN has links with the Venezuelan Social Christian Party (COPEI), the Costa Rican Justice, Peace, and Democracy Party [Partido Justicia, Paz, y Democracia], as well as with similar parties in El Salvador and Spain.

In a news conference also attended by PAN's Secretary General Bernardo Batiz, Gonzalez Schmall confirmed that PAN delegates were present at the U.S. Republican Party convention. According to Gonzalez Schmall, he attended the convention as a guest, together with Jorge Eugenio Ortiz Gallegos, another prominent member of the PAN. He added that representatives from democratic parties, from both the moderate and conservative lines, were invited to the convention.

During the news conference Gonzalez Schmall praised Reagan's electoral platform and read part of it. "No links were established; it was only a rapprochement," he said.

According to the PAN leader, there were "guests" from Austria, France, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, Greece, the UK, Belize, Jamaica, and Bolivia, among others, all of whom are members of the "International Democratic Union" created in London last year. Gonzalez Schmall did not dismiss the possibility that his party may join this type of "union."

He also acknowledged similarities between PAN and the U.S. Republican Party since both favor a conservative type of government, with limited state control, as proposed by the U.S. "Heritage" institution. "They believe in democracy and pluralism," Gonzalez Schmall said, referring to the Republicans.

He also considered it "healthy" for PAN to exchange "information" with similar parties in other countries, not only on aspects related to the parties but also on the situation in their respective countries. As PAN gains internal support "its international relations improve," Gonzalez Schmall said, adding that the type of "information" they will exchange will be on the overall situation in the different countries and on doctrine.

According to the PAN leader, during his presence at the Republican convention he found that we Mexicans "are considered political cannibals, incapable of achieving democracy and politically inarticulate."

"PAN wants to reverse this concept," Gonzalez Schmall said after showing the journalists various reports published in U.S. newspapers regarding the detention of Arturo Durazo Moreno, former police and traffic director. "We believe we must counter this image with positive information," he said. He also accused the Institutional Revolutionary Party, the People Socialist Party, the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico, the Socialist Workers Party, the Mexican Workers Party, and the Revolutionary Workers of having links with political organizations abroad which "control" these political parties. Even Fidel Velasquez [secretary general of the Confederation of Mexican Workers] "must follow guidelines from the Socialist International," he said.

Gonzalez Schmall also referred to the anticommunist crusade in the region initiated by Ronald Reagan to support "democracy."

"We were very interested in learning about Reagan's platform; it establishes a limit for the state's development," the PAN leader concluded candidly.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO CONTADORA, GUATEMALA — Abraham Tala**vera** Lopez has been appointed Mexican ambassador to the Political Affairs Commission of the Contadora Group and to Guatemala replacing Brigade General Rafael Macedo Figue**roa** who has been the Mexican ambassador since 1978. [Summary] [Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 24 Aug 84 p 2 PA]

BELIZE

EXPORT EARNINGS SHOW IMPROVEMENT SINCE LAST YEAR

FL301340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2210 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Aug 29, CANA -- Belize earned 11 million dollars (one Bel dollar; 49 cents U.S.) more from its domestic exports in the first half of this year than it did in the corresponding period last year, according to a government publication.

The improvement partly reflected better prices for the Central American state's exports, including sugar and citrus concentrate, THE NEW BELIZE monthly magazine said. The value of Belize's exports climbed from 62 million dollars in the first half of 1983 to 73.2 million for the corresponding period this year.

"This increase in earnings was mainly due to an improvement in the export price of sugar, molasses and citrus concentrate and also due to increased shipments of garments to the USA," the publication reported.

Average sugar prices for January-June this year were up from last year's 626 dollars per long ton to 661 dollars, molasses from 54 dollars a long ton to 79 dollars, and citrus concentrate from 14 dollars per gallon to 18.5 dollars.

The timber and banana industries, however, had problems. "Earnings in the timber industry for the first six months show a decline to 0.8 million dollars, a reduction of 43 per cent over what they were during that same period last year," the publication said.

"The quantity of bananas exported declined, but due to an improvement in price revenue remained stable." The magazine said the situation in the fishing industry "hasn't changed much."

COSTA RICA

MONGE SEES OAS AS SUCCESSOR TO CONTADORA

PA302136 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The president of the Republic, Luis Alberto Monge, feels that it will be up to the OAS to try to achieve peace in Central America following the setback of the Contadora Group. Approached by this radio station on the matter, President Monge said:

[Begin Monge recording] Well, Costa Rica expected this, but we could not jump to conclusions too early. We are convinced that Contadora made great strong, sincere efforts -- not as claimed by some sectors here -- but it has reached a stage where it can advance no further. In fact, it was an OAS decision to give the opportunity to the Contadora Group. Now, however, since the opportunity has reached its limit, the only other alternative is the OAS. [end recording]

The failure of the Contadora Group became evident after the meeting of the technical committee with the deputy foreign ministers of the group and the other Central American countries last weekend in Panama. This meeting had been considered crucial for the future of the group.

PRESIDENT MONGE SWEARS IN NEW MINISTERS

PA310304 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Three recently appointed ministers were sworn in at the Presidential Palace by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge. Sworn in were Benjamin Piza Carranza, public security minister; Carlos Manual Rojas, agriculture and livestock minister; and Danilo Jimenez Veiga, minister of the Presidency. Also sworn in was Rene Castro, who has been appointed deputy government minister.

BRIEFS

CENSUS FIGURES -- Preliminary figures released by the National Directorate of Statistics and Census place the country's population at 2,460,226 inhabitants; 31.6 percent more than in 1973, when the population was 1,871,780. San Jose, the capital, is the most densely populated area with 893,254 inhabitants, which represents 36.3 percent of the population. Rafael Trigueros, director general of the National Directorate of Statistics and Census, said that the official figures will be released in June 1985. [Summary] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 23 Aug 84 p 2 A PA]

DEBTS RENEGOTIATED -- According to the Central Bank of Costa Rica, Central American countries owe Costa Rica $245 million. Of the total owed, $160.9 million has been renegotiated. Formal payment agreements have been concluded as follows: Honduras $1.8 million; Guatemala $33.4 million; Nicaragua $117.4 million; and El Salvador $8.1 billion [figures as published]. The amount still to be renegotiated is $84.2, of which Nicaragua owes $63.4 million; Honduras $5.8 million; Guatemala $4.4 million; and El Salvador $10.6 million. [Text] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Aug 84 p 3 PA]

EL SALVADOR

RAILROADS SUSPEND SERVICE FOR LACK OF PROTECTION

PA302359 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Aug 84 pp 3, 70

[Text] Spokesmen for Fenadesal, the Salvadoran National Railroad, have said that service on the nationwide railroad system was suspended again as of early yesterday morning due to a lack of protection.

The railroad is the most widely used means of transporting goods to and from the country's two ports. A few days ago, at the request of the company, the Army provided air surveillance, using Salvadoran Air Force (FAS) helicopters. However, well-informed sources said that the air surveillance was called off because of its high cost. For that reason, Fenadesal had to order its trains to remain in the railroad yards.

Yesterday, railroad service was reportedly normal. Meanwhile, Army spokesmen have reported clashes between terrorists and Army units in Chalatenango Department. According to the sources, many terrorists were killed during clashes in different parts of the country. Official sources said that terrorists had dynamited two high tension towers causing a power outage since Tuesday evening and seriously affecting the civilian population in the Aguilares area.

FMLN CLAIMS SUCCESSES IN SAN MIGUEL DEPARTMENT

PA301500 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] On 29 August at 0400, FMLN guerrillas seized control over a stretch of the Chapeltique-Ciudad Barrios road near (Cierro de Arena). They blocked the road with cars and sabotaged several telegraph poles and electric power lines serving Ciudad Barrios. At 0600, troops of the former Arce Battalion, now called the Negroponte Battalion, arrived at the site. A clash ensued in which five troops of the dictatorship were wounded, increasing the number of casualties that we have inflicted on the enemy in the past several hours in northern San Miguel Department.

On 28 August FMLN units clashed with troops of the Negroponte Battalion near (Santa Leonor) farm, on Cacahuatique Hill. Two of the enemy were wounded in this action. On our part, no casualties were reported.

Neither Deputy Septalin Santos Ponce, an alcoholic, nor the battalion that is named after him can score any points. A report from northern San Miguel Department indicates that on 28 August FMLN units clashed with troops of the Deputy Septalin Santos Ponce Battalion near San Sebastian Canton, in northern San Miguel. Our troops wounded four of the enemy in this action. On our part, no casualties were reported. The dictatorship's troops had a bad day on 28 August.

We have another report from northern San Miguel Department, where the FMLN has dealt sharp blows on the troops serving the obligarchy in various clashes occurring over a period of several hours.

On 28 August at 1600 guerrilla forces of the FMLN's Luis Adalberto Diaz Detachment clashed with troops of the Ponce Battalion -- that is to say of the Deputy Septalin Santos Ponce Battalion -- near Ojeo Canton, in northern San Miguel Department. The dictatorship's troops sustained two more casualties; we sustained none.

The FMLN's rebel units have inflicted 13 casualties on the dictatorship's forces in the past several hours in northern San Miguel Department.

GUATEMALA

SUBVERSIVES ATTACK ARMY ENGINEERS BATTALION

PA302123 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] A subversive group today ambushed a battalion of the Army Engineers Corps in Santa Cruz Barillas, Huehuetenango. Several members of the military contingent were killed. The exact number of casualties is not known.

The Army issued a preliminary report tonight on this incident, which took place at the junction of the highway leading from the northern area to Santa Cruz Barillas on the border with Mexico. The report indicates that the battalion of the Army Engineers Corps that was attacked today had been frequently harassed by subversive groups in the past.

HONDURAS

MILITARY BULLETIN ANNOUNCES 'STATE OF ALERT'

PA301230 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0533 GMT 30 Aug 84

[By Anne Marie O'Connor]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Honduran Armed Forces have announced that the country is under a state of alert as a result of a group of rebels trained in Cuba who have entered the country from Nicaragua to sow unrest and fear. A military bulletin released last night reported that the security forces have evidence that subversive groups entered the country clandestinely from points along the border with Nicaragua, which demonstrates that there is a plan to subvert order and peace in the Republic.

The bulletin added that a large part of the information on the renewed guerrilla activity was obtained from former guerrillas who stated at a press conference on Tuesday that they were part of a group of rebels trained in Cuba to reactivate the Honduran guerrilla movement. The sources, who claimed to have deserted the group, told newsmen that they were trained in Cuba and fought with the Nicaraguan troops against the right-wing rebels for more than 5 months as part of their training.

The bulletin was the first alert issued by the Honduran military on the guerrillas since the Army quelled the country's guerrilla movement in a series of anti-insurgency operations last year in the deep jungle region of the province of Olancho. It reported that the guerrillas are awaiting instructions from the governments of Cuba and Nicaragua.

This, the bulletin added, is an unequivocal sign that subversive actions continue in Honduras and tend to increase with acts and operations against the citizens to sow unrest and fear among the population. The bulletin asked the Hondurans to denounce any activity and movement by foreigners and said that the Army is alert to neutralize any attempt threatening national security and stability. The bulletin stated that the Armed Forces suspect that young men who were mentioned recently as having disappeared in the countryside have in fact been recruited to guerrilla activities. It also asked the would-be guerrillas to abstain from any subversive-terrorist action and that, on the contrary, they surrender to the authorities, abide by the law, and clarify their situation to rejoin society and resume their life alongside their relatives.

ARMED FORCES DENY REPORT ON DISCOVERY OF BODIES

PA301605 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The Honduran Armed Forces yesterday denied a report relayed by Radio America's correspondent on Honduras' northern coast. The Honduran Army denied the discovery of 15 bodies in San Alejo, Port of Tela Municipality, on the northern coast. Radio America's correspondent in San Pedro Sula phoned from the Port of Tela yesterday and reported that at least 15 bodies had been discovered in San Alejo, near the Port of Tela. According to the report, an unidentified person reported over the phone that 15 unidentified bodies had been discovered in Port of Tela, specifically in the community of San Alejo. In a bulletin released yesterday, the Honduran Armed Forces said that the report was malicious, aimed at blaming the Honduran Armed Forces for these deaths, since the person reporting from the Port of Tela tendentiously said that people were wondering who should be made responsible for these crimes now that Alvarez Martinez is not in the country.

The Honduran Armed Forces clarification was based on the following four points: 1. The military institution categorically refutes the tendentious nature of this alarming report that seeks to turn the citizens against the Armed Forces and harm the institution's image. 2. The Armed Forces want to reaffirm their respect for human rights and their unrestricted compliance with the Constitution and Honduran laws. 3. Despite the falseness of this report, the Armed Forces High Command has ordered an investigation, in order to determine the origin and purpose of this type of information, which has raised fear and doubt among the Honduran people. 4. The High Command wants to assure the Honduran people once again that the Honduran Armed Forces coutinue to respect and ensure respect for human rights in Honduras.

NICARAGUA

MINISTRY REPORTS 27, 28 AUGUST BORDER CLASHES

PA302337 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2225 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Defense Ministry Public and Foreign Relations Office communique issued in Managua on 30 August]

[Text] On 27 and 28 August, attacks with artillery fire against [as heard] Somozist mercenary forces took place from Costa Rican and Honduran territory in Matagalpa Department's mountains. As a result, 30 counterrevolutionaries were killed and 8 peasants were kidnapped in southern Zelaya Department.

On the morning of 27 August, counterrevolutionary artillery units, using 81-mm mortars, fired a total of 15 rockets on San Juan del Norte, Rio San Juan Department. No casualties were reported on our part. The mortars were fired from (Punta Castillo), in Costa Rican territory.

On 28 August, Sandinist People's Army [EPS] troops clashed with some 370 counterrevolutionaries belonging to the so-called Jorge Salazar Regional Command. This clash took place 19 km southwest of Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department, in places known as Las Canas and (Las Quebradas Lucia). As a result, 30 counterrevolutionaries led by Quiche were killed. During this clash our troops were supported by artillery forces which forced the criminal former guardsmen to flee toward San Jeronimo, 14 km southwest of Bocana de Paiwas. They are being pursued by our troops, who captured one counterrevolutionary. On 28 August, an undetermined number of counterrevolutionaries belonging to the group of former Somozist security office agent Steadman Fagoth opened fire with 81-mm mortars on the Wasla Observation Post, 22 km northeast of Waspam, Northern Zelaya Department. The firing came from Honduran territory. EPS border guard units reported no casualties.

Also on the morning of 28 August, some 50 Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] counterrevolutionaries staged an incursion in the San Juan region, 4 km to the east of Rama, southern Zelaya Department. The following peasants were kidnapped: Bartolo Sosa, Concepcion Rivas, Mauricio Sosa, Justo Rivas, Ruperto Almanza, Patricio Reyes, Mario Loza, and Genaro Almanza. They are all males belonging to the same family living in the San Juan region.

Fifty years later, Sandino still lives.

15,000 COPIES OF LA PRENSA CONFISCATED

PA302121 Paris AFP in Spanish 1930 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Managua, 30 Aug (AFP) -- Sandinist authorities have confiscated some 15,000 copies of the afternoon daily LA PRENSA in the northwestern Departments of Leon and Chinandega, Jaime Chamorro, the newspaper's director reported today.

Yesterday's edition of LA PRENSA carried a report on a demonstation staged by hundreds of students protesting the Patriotic Military Service (SMP) in Chinandega, a city 150 km northwest of Managua. The government's censorship office did not impose censorship on the report, but "higher orders" from the Interior Ministry forced the newspaper off the stands in those departments, Chamorro said. Chamorro maintains that the authorities' behavior "violates the law and proves that freedom of the press is violated in Nicaragua."

Meanwhile, progovernment dailies today ignored the Chinandega demonstration during which protesters clashed with members of the 19 July Sandinist Youth and FSLN organizations. During their march through Chinandega the students opposed to recruitment chanted slogans such as "Food yes, guns no," and "We want studies not military service."

Sandinist leaders in that area said that "although we do not want war but to live in peace, the aggression of the United States and the armed bands demand that we undertake defensive tasks."

FDN SHOOTS DOWN SANDINIST HELICIPTER NEAR TUMA

PA310211 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, today claimed to have shot down a Sandinist Air Force helicopter. According to the clandestine radio station Radio 15 September, the helicopter was shot down with heavy machinegun fire near the Tuma River, 20 km northeast of the town of Tuma, Matagalpa Department, on 28 August. According to the radio station, the five crew members were killed. The helicopter was described as a Soviet-made (MI-8) and is one of the 15 helicopters that arrived in Puerto Cabezas from Cuba a year ago. The same source added that this is the fourth helicopter shot down by rebel fire in central and northern Nicaragua in the past 60 days.

MISURA CREOLES JOIN ARDE-FDN PACT, ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

PA310417 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE; Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN; and Miskitos, Sumus and Ramas, MISURA, and Creoles communique issued in "Nicaragua's atlantic coast," on 29 August read by FDN leader Indalecio Rodriguez -- live or recorded]

[Text] ARDE, FDN, and MISURA and Creoles will adhere, with equal rights and duties, to the Panama Agreement for National Reconciliation, signed in Panama City on 24 July 1984. Therefore, these three main democratic organizations, which together have over 15,000 men on the battlefield, have agreed:

1. To fight jointly to liberate Nicaragua from Marxist totalitarianism or a return to the past.

2. To establish in Nicaragua a provisional national reconciliation government which will have as its chief mission beginning the country's democratization, a process culminating within a year in free elections, overseen by inter-American bodies.

3. To denounce the fact that Sandinist intransigence has thwarted actions by hemispheric organizations that could have prevented this fratricidal war.

4. To promote this patriotic undertaking by joining hands with all those who are sincerely fighting against Sandinist totalitarianism.

5. To urge unity among freedom-loving men to overthrow the tyranny, eliminate the threat of Soviet expansionism, and establish lasting peace with justice.

[Signed] Alfonso Robelo, Roberto Ferrey, and Juan Zavala for ARDE; Adolfo Calero, Alfonso Callejas, and Indalecio Rodriguez for FDN; Wycliffe Diego, Teofilo Archibald, and Roger Hermann for MISURA and Creoles.

VOICE OF SANDINO REPORTS ARDE WAR BULLETINS

24 BLI Killed

PA300411 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, General Command War Bulletin No 298 issued in Sarapiqui, "free territory of Nicaragua," on 29 August]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's friendly people:

1. In the offensive begun on 1 August by the distinguished Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya Column against EPS Sandinist People's Army [EPS] positions in the Rama area, ARDE's courageous fighters defeated our people's enemies in each clash, making them flee in disarray.

2. The peasant insurrectionists, using guerrilla warfar tactics under the leadership of our Commander in Chief Eden Pastora Gomez, will fight to the end, until we win or die.

3. At 0500 on 5 August, a squad of the Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya Column, an Indian commando unit led by Companero Bufalo, using heavy rifle fire, surprised a Battalion for Unconventional Warfare, BLI, at a garrison in the El Castillo area, Rio Rama jurisdiction. Our internal resistance confirmed that the BLI lost 24 men.

4. These BLI's are mostly made up of Cuban mercenaries who have come from Angola and Ethiopia. When faced with the courageous ARDE fighters, the mercenaries run for cover.

5. The clash with the Army of the nine Managua communists lasted 90 minutes. Two heroic comrades-in-arms died during this clash: Companero Isabel Prado, known as Pajaro; and Companero Isimiol Gonzales, known as Tomate.

Death to the Cuban invader!

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, General Commander of the ARDE Armed Forces

EPS Offensive Neutralized

PA310332 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces War Bulletin No 299 issued in Sarapiqui, "free territory of Nicaragua," on 30 August]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's friendly peoples:

1. The heroic Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya Column, in its unceasing efforts to locate and attack positions of the EPS [Sandinist People's Army], the Cuban-Soviet Army, continues to cause many EPS casualties and to defeat the demoralized troops of the nine communists.

2. The offensive that the brave Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya Column has been staging against EPS positions since 1 August has demonstrated the military ability and the high combat morale of the ARDE troops, led by Commander Eden Pastora.

3. At 0700 on 11 August, a squad of the Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya Column of the Indian Commando unit led by Companero Bufalo, which was located in El Pavon, Rio Rama jurisdiction, resisted with revolutionary Sandinist courage an offensive launched at our positions by one of the nine totalitarians' battalions for unconventional warfare, BLI.

4. In a speedy action, the outstanding ARDE fighters surrounded the EPS guards on 3 flanks, killing 35 and wounding many.

5. This offensive launched by our people's enemies was neutralized in 2 days by the courageous fighters of the Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya Column. The ARDE fighters, led by Commander Eden Pastora, suffered no casualties.

Forward, companero fighters!

Death to the Cuban, Bulgarian, and Russian invaders!

Get the mercenaries and killers of our people out of Nicaragua!

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, General Commander of the ARDE Armed Forces

JOSE MARTI BRIGADE TO ARRIVE FROM EUROPE

FL302056 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1805 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Under the auspices of 15 West European nations' friendship with Cuba groups, the 10th contingent of the Jose Marti International Brigade will arrive in Cuba this week.

The contingent is made up of 330 brigade members from 15 countries -- Austria, Belgium, Spain, France, Switzerland, Greece, the UK, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, and West Germany.

The European brigade members who are to visit us will show with their presence their solidarity with the Cuban revolution, because they are paying for the trip themselves and making the trip during their vacations.

During their stay, the visitors will participate in a broad and varied range of activities, interspersed with construction work on social projects, and attend conferences on economic, political, and cultural matters of interest.

This international brigade encompasses workers, professionals, students, artists, and journalists. They also hold different political and religious beliefs, and are united in their solidarity with the Cuban revolution, whose premises and achievements they spread in their respective countries through the various Cuban friendship associations.

Activities on the contingent's agenda include meetings with Armando Hart and Jose Ramon Fernandez, respectively ministers of culture and education, visits to agricultural cooperatives, to the Union of Cuban Journalists [UPEC], and to the Union of Cuban Writers and Artists [UNEAC]. Also on the agenda is a solidarity round table with the peoples of Central America and the Caribbean, and visits to Cuba's interior.

ENVOY MEETS WITH AUSTRIAN HEALTH OFFICIAL

FL302324 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The possibility of Cuba and Austria exchanging experiences in the field of public health was discussed by Austrian Health and Environmental Protection Minister Kurt Steyrer at a meeting with Cuban Ambassador Gustavo Mazorra, it was reported in Vienna.

Ambassador Mazorra paid a courtesy call on Steyrer, who is also National Council member of the Socialist Party of Austria.

Ministry Steyrer said he was well informed on Cuba's current extraordinary advances in the health field. He expressed his desire to begin to develop the exchange of experiences, which in his opinion could begin with the exchange of periodicals and visits by scientists in specialties of common interest.

CZECHOSLOVAK LIBERATION COMMEMORATED

FL301404 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The main ceremony commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Czechoslovak insurrection against fascism took place in the Giulio Fossi industrial-military enterprise in Manicaragua, Villa Clara Province. First Secretary (Snerep Gavenda) of the Czechoslovakian Embassy in Cuba attended the ceremony.

COMMENTARY SAYS REAGAN FAVORS USE OF FORCE

FL300200 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] It is difficult to imagine that a U.S. President could make bad jokes about so serious a subject as nuclear war.

When current White House occupant Ronald Reagan made a microphone sound-level test, moments before a radio broadcast, he told an imaginary audience "I am pleased to announce that I have signed a law decreeing Russia forever outlawed. The bombing will begin in five minutes." That sound-level test truly sounded bad, and brought a wave of protest from around the world, including those allies most loyal to Washington.

What Reagan said as a joke is what he really thinks, and what he would like to do. That is why the threatening possibility of his reelection to a second term in office becomes a motive for alarm for all peace-loving people and for all those in the world who oppose war and the use of nuclear arms.

After President Reagan made his bad joke, the Republican Party held its convention in Dallas, Texas, where Reagan was nominated as the party's presidential candidate and where the party's platform for the next term was approved.

Contained within the document's 110 pages is the most surprising argumentation in favor of the use of force in international relations, for blackmail against nations which resist Yankee designs, and greatly aggressive foreign policy lines. Nevertheless, it must remembered that both antiSocialist and anti-Soviet trends are nothing new, although they may now have taken on a greater intensity as a result of the Washington clique's ultraconservative policies.

Some 66 years ago, at the beginning of the October Revolution, the U.S. Government, along with numerous other countries, participated in the armed attack against the young workers' republic.

Later, the United States heavily contributed to the rise of fascism in the world, first helping Franco in Spain and later Hitler and his henchmen in an attack against the Soviet Union, which finally took place on 22 June, 1941.

Even before the end of World War II, thanks to the Soviet people's heroism and sacrifice, the Yankee leaders were preparing aggressive plans against the Soviet Union. Shortly before President Harry Truman gave the criminal order to drop atomic bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a nuclear aggression plan against the Soviet people were being prepared.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was in favor of attacking the Soviets with nuclear weapons while the United States still had exclusive use over this destructive device. These aggressive plans were never abandoned. At present, Reagan has given his antisocialist and anticommunist policies the characteristics of a crusade. But, today's world is not the same one which was found at the start of the postwar period. Today the correlation of forces is different, and it is not possible to conduct this gigantic misdeed, as Reagan dreams of unleashing a nuclear war without having to confront an overpowering and decisive counterattack. It would be very sad to reach this point. That is why it is necessary to restrain those who are demented, and mightily prepare in order to achieve peace because it is very difficult to have a winner in a nuclear war.

U.S. INCREASES RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL TO CUBA

FL310054 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] In a new effort to isolate and hurt Cuba's economy, President Reagan has ordered an investigation into trips made by journalists and professionals to Cuba with the intent of increasing restrictions on them, it was reported in Washington.

In exceptional cases, under U.S. law, journalists, teachers, lawyers, and other professionals who can justify their visit are allowed to travel to Cuba and other countries which are considered enemies. But now, according to officials, Reagan has launched an investigation to increase these restrictions.

THE NEW YORK TIMES reported that the administration had seized documents of the Mar Azul Tours Inc travel agency which offers trips to Cuba. According to their sources, this seizure was conducted to investigate if the agency was complying with U.S. Government-imposed restrictions, which had been ratified by the Supreme Court this year.

REAGAN 'VIOLATING' U.S. RIGHTS LAW IN EL SALVADOR

FL301952 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1803 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] President Ronald Reagan has violated a law on respect for human rights in El Salvador before military aid is provided to the country's regime.

A U.S. Federal Appeals Court stated yesterday that Ronald Reagan acted illegally, and did not adhere to a Congressional agreement which stated that the White House must certify that the Salvadoran regime is respecting the people's human rights before supplying military aid.

The Senate and House of Representatives agreement of 1983 states that Ronald Reagan must certify every 6 months that the regime has made progress in respecting human rights in El Salvador. The U.S. president systematically used various maneuvers to violate this agreement, which had been approved by the Senate and House.

U.S. ACCUSES NICARAGUA OF BLOCKING CONTADORA

PA302212 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The U.S. State Department has tried to accuse Nicaragua of blocking progress at the recent Contadora Group meeting, as which the Nicaraguan Government stated that a negotiated solution for the region is possible, despite U.S. support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups.

Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, who participated in the meeting in Panama, said that it is very difficult to improve the internal situation of any Central American country so long as foreign forces finance, support, and organize groups trying to destabilize other governments.

U.S. PLANS $489 MILLION IN AID TO HONDURAS

FL301836 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Honduras will receive $489 million in U.S. economic and military aid this year, according to U.S. Embassy sources in Tegucigalpa. Honduras numerous war installations operated by U.S. troops, including ports, and landing strips for U.S. Air Force planes. The military aid the government of President Roberto Suazo Cordova will receive will consolidate a war capability already considered enormous and unnecessary for a nation that is as poor as Hunduras.

PANAMA DECISION ON U.S. SCHOOL 'IRREVERSIBLE'

PA302153 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Panamanian President Jorge Illueca has declared that his government's decision not to permit the U.S. School of the Americas to continue operating in Panama is irreversible. That center of U.S. military instruction and counsel has operated for 38 years in the Canal Zone, and it has been the incubator of most dictators and coupists of Latin America. The canal treaties signed with the United States state that the School of the Americas will cease to exist in Panama on 1 October of this year.

PEASANTS FLEE GUATEMALAN UNREST FOR MEXICO

FL301348 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Mexico City -- Fleeing from the Guatemalan Army's hostile acts and repressive measures, 5,000 Guatemalan peasants have escaped from Guatemala and entered Mexico, according to a report issued in Mexico City by the Human Rights Commission of Guatemala.

INTENSIVE 'MILITARIZATION' OF HONDURAS NOTED

FL302232 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1808 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] With the recent sending of a group of military communications experts, the United States continues its intense militarization of Honduras, where 1,000 U.S. armed troops are based.

A U.S. embassy spokesman confirmed last weekend that U.S. military experts had arrived on Tiger Island, located in the strategic Gulf of Fonseca, shared by Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua.

The contingent already operating on Honduran territory is made up of troops from the South Carolina-based 2d Special Forces, and units from the Panama-based 193d Special Forces brigade.

The U.S. military communication experts have the mission of linking all U.S. military installations in Honduras with each other and the Pentagon.

FARABUNDO MARTI FAVORS DIALOGUE ON EL SALVADOR

PA302206 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The Salvadoran people hope the opening of a dialogue and negotiations process will lead to a solution of the nation's most urgent problems, Radio Farabundo Marti has commented, noting that the people no longer expect anything from the head of the government, Jose Napoleon Duarte, aside from the collapse of his regime.

The rebel radio station noted that among the basic issues the government must solve are respect for human rights, the dissolution of the repressive corps, and the elimination of the death squads. The station added that measures should be adopted to solve unemployment and create new sources of work and put an end to the control of the oligarchies over the main economic activities in the country.

Radio Farabundo Marti also said that the government should initiate action to end U.S. interference in the nation's internal affairs.

RAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED IN EL SALVADOR

FL301300 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1104 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Military sources in San Salvador have admitted that railroad transport ceased yesterday in El Salvador because of the alleged lack of protection against possible guerrilla attacks. The suspension of railway service is a hard blow for the weak Salvadoran economy. Officials of the Salvadoran National Railroads said that, because of the lack of adequate protection, train traffic is immobilized until further notice. The Salvadoran Army had provided land and air cover for the national railroads until last week. It is now alleged that these security measures are very expensive and that the nation does not have sufficient financial resources to continue them.

The Salvadoran military high command has admitted that its forces have suffered six casualties in fighting with insurgents in the town of Los Ranchos, located 55 km northwest of San Salvador.

FMLN FORCES CLASH WITH EL SALVADOR ARMY

PA301504 Havana International Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The Salvadoran Army suffered six casualties killed or wounded in a clash with guerrilla forces at Los Ranchos, 55 km northwest of San Salvador. In the past few hours, it was reported, the FMLN forces destroyed two electric power poles in the town of Aguilares, 25 km from the Salvadoran capital.

C.R. RODRIGUEZ DISCUSSES BOOK IN MATANZAS

FL281738 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo, has visited the Alfonso Perez Isaac Vocational Art School in Matanzas, where 600 students will study several specialties. Later, in the Yumuri, Parnaso, and cathedral area, Carlos Rafael gave a detailed talk on his three-volume work, "Cutting Remarks" [Letra con Filo].

GOVERNMENT SIGNS INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH IMF

FL302330 Bridgetown CANA in English 2319 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, Aug 30, CANA-REUTER -- The Dominican Republic, reeling under a three-billion-dollar foreign debt, has reached agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for an interim loan, government spokesman said today.

The accord comes four months after an IMF-decreed hike in food prices, set as a condition for renewal of a three-year loan of 450 million dollars, triggered riots in which 55 people died.

It coincides with a new price rise crisis. The government yesterday deployed thousands of troops in all main cities in anticipation of protests when petrol prices are increased.

The spokesman said the interim agreement, which covers a six-month period, will free U.S. aid worth 200 million dollars which was held up pending an accord with the IMF. It will allow the government to renegotiate repayment terms with its main European creditors, they said.

The details of the agreement were to be laid out in a speech tonight (2100 GMT) by President Salvador Jorge Blanco, the spokesman said.

Oil Prices Increased

PA310411 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0320 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, 30 Aug (EFE) -- Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco tonight announced the conclusion of an agreement with the IMF and an increase in the price of oil byproducts.

In a radio and television speech, Blanco announced that his government has reached a "bridging" agreement with the IMF and that, even though it does not provide for any disbursement by the IMF, it will at least allow for loans and assistance from the Governments of the United States, France, and particularly Spain. He also announced that the U.S. Government has just approved a $50-million credit to the Dominican Republic, which will arrive in due time.

Blanco said that his government of national unity [concentration national] is trying to see that the San Jose oil agreement with Mexico and Venezuela remains in effect in order to devote the 6-percent balance of the oil purchases to energy projects.

Blanco also announced that a gallon of gasoline (4 litres), which now costs 2.30 Dominican pesos (at par with the dollar), will sell for 2.95 starting Monday; the price of diesel fuel will increase from 1.30 to 2.25 pesos; liquid gas for industrial use will sell for 2.00; gasoline [as received] for 1.65; and fuel [in English] for domestic consumption for 1.25 pesos.

The new fuel prices take into consideration the transfer of the oil imports to a preferential foreign exchange market of 1.50 pesos per dollar instead of the pesos at par with the dollar that the government has been using to subsidize fuel thus far.

The government's decision to transfer the oil imports to the preferential market of 1.50 pesos to the dollar rejects the IMF demand that oil imports by the Dominican Republic be paid for with dollars from the parallel foreign exchange market, on which $1 is worth 2.85 Dominican pesos.

Another measure announced by Blanco tonight is an increase in the Value Added Tax (VAT) and the departure tax payable by Dominicans and foreigners.

During the 24 hours preceding Blanco's speech, national police arrested several Communist and union leaders and persecuted others, including Narciso Isa Conde, secretary general of the Dominican Communist Party, following the announcement that they would take to the streets to protest the measures to be announced by the government.

In his speech, Blanco assumed responsibility "and the full consequences" for extending over 48 hours the detention of the union leaders and leaders of the Dominican revolutionary left wing, so as to avoid street rioting.

In late April disturbances took place for several days in Dominican cities, with a toll of 86 deaths, following the organization of protest demonstrations against the high cost of living and the measures imposed by the IMF.

Leftist Leaders Arrested

PA3110344 Rome IPS in Spanish 0242 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 30 Aug (IPS) — The Dominican Republic's security forces have begun rounding up union and leftist leaders in an attempt to prevent the staging of protest demonstrations over price increases to be enforced shortly.

Salvador Jorge Blanco's government has already stated that it will allow foreign exchange for oil imports to be acquired on the free market. The measure, which will result in further price increases, will be confirmed at any moment.

In a communique released on Monday the Armed Forces stated that clandestine groups are planning acts of violence throughout the country to destabilize the government.

The communique added that the $700 million the country spends on oil imports will be acquired on the free market as of mid-September.

"As a preventive measure," the authorities searched the homes of several leaders and members of the left, and some of them were arrested during the search. Among those arrested are Rafael Taveras, president of the Socialist Bloc; Jose Israel Cuello, member of the central committee of the Dominican Communist Party (PCD); and Barbarin Mojica and Ivan Rodriguez of the Anti-Imperialist Patriotic Union (UPA).

According to family members, the police are after Julio de Pena Valdez, secretary general of the General Workers' Central, (CGT); Jose Gonzalez Espinosa, president of the Dominican Workers Party (PTD); Rafael Chajlub Mejia, secretary general of the Communist Labor Party [Partido Comunista del Trabajo] (PCT) and Narciso Isa Conde, secretary general of the Dominican Communist Party, among others. In Santiago de los Caballeros, the most important province in the country, approximately 170 km from the capital city, more than 30 members of the left have been arrested.

A statement released by the PTD says that the arrests and searches being carried out by the government through its repressive crops are the preliminary results of a communique issued by the Armed Forces on Monday. "That communique was intended to legalize political pressures against the popular forces, which were organized at the same time they were attempting to make them illegal," the statement added.

According to the PTD this is the first phase of "a brutal repressive escalation that will not stop at arrests and searches but will go much further, in fact that they are willing to take as many lives as necessary as long as they can fulfill all the requests made by the IMF."

GRENADA

FOREIGN INTERFERENCE SAID BEHIND PARTIES' MERGER

FL301306 Bridgetown CANA in English 2244 GMT 29 Aug 84

[By Reuben Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Aug 29, CANA -- Agriculture minister in Grenada's ousted revolutionary government, George Louison, today accused some Eastern Caribbean governments, of "the most gross interference" in Grenada's internal affairs because of their reported involvement in an initiative to have four moderate parties merge into a single unit.

Louison, one of three members of the cabinet of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop who survived last October's bloody military coup, was reacting to the decision by the leaders of the Grenada National Party (GNP), the Grenada Democratic Movement (GDM), the National Democratic Party (NDP), and the Christian Democratic Labour Party (CDLP) to agree in principle to merge into the New National Party (NNP).

The decision was taken Sunday at a meeting on Union Island, one of the Grenadine Island chain. Prime Ministers James Mitchell of St Vincent and the Grenadines, Tom Adams of Barbados, and St Lucia's John Compton were reported by the press here to have been present.

"It is a most dangerous development in Caribbean politics. It is a most dangerous development in the search for genuine co-operation and for non-interference in the affairs of states by other states," Louison told reporters here during a one-day stop-over en route to London.

"They have once again violated all the principles international relations are based on," he added.

The tentative agreement on a merger followed months of bickering over the formation of a strong centrist bloc to ward off challenges from the right-wing Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) of former Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy and the leftist Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM) of which Louison is leading figure.

Diplomatic sources in St George's say the United States, which led last October's invasion of Grenada, also involving the four Caribbean islands, is anxious to see the centrists win elections planned for later this year. The poll will restore constitutional democracy.

Louison is a steering committee member of the MBPM which is pressing for continuation of projects and programmes initiated during four and a half year rule of Bishop.

He accused the United States of wanting to see an administration in St George's with "a made in U.S.A. label" and said Washington was also behind the Union Island meeting.

Since the invasion, prompted by the military coup that executed Bishop, Grenada has been ruled by a two-partite interim council which will hand over power to an elected government.

Lonigan said the NJM, an offshoot of the breakup of Bishop's New Jewel Movement (NJM), has been able to regain a lot of the support the Grenadian left had lost as a result of the bitter inter-party fighting that led to the cold blooded murder of Bishop and half his cabinet.

He added that while the group had decided to "definitely" contest the forthcoming poll, it had not yet decided if it will field a full slate of 15 candidates to enhance chances of winning the government or if it is just seek a presence in parliament.

He said the party was planning a convention to take a decision on this and other issues, but when it will beconvened is dependent "on how events go in the coming weeks."

JAMAICA

CENTRAL BANK RAISES INTEREST RATE 1 PERCENT

FL3011640 Bridgetown CANA in English 1611 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 30, CANA — Interest rates were raised here by one percent today in a move the Central Bank said was aimed at further encouraging savings and to help reduce consumption in order to meet balance of payments targets.

According to the Bank of Jamaica, the bank rate has been moved from 13 to 14 percent, and the new rediscount rate went to 16 percent.

The prime lending rate of commercial banks moved also from 15 to 16 percent and, to protect funds, their minimum interest on savings deposits will, from September 1, move from 11 to 12 percent.

"This upward movement in rates is in keeping with government's flexible interest rate policy and reinforces other policies being pursued to stimulate savings and to ensure that consumption levels are contained in order to further reduce demand for imports, which is fundamental to the achievement of our balance of payments target," the Central Bank said.

Jamaica this fiscal year, under a stand-by credit agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is expected to show a positive balance of payments of 125 million (U.S.) dollars to begin a sustained reversal of the negative trends of the past several years.

Interest rates were last adjusted in January as part of a package of monetary policies introduced by Prime Minister Edward Seaga to implement his fiscal and economic programmes to deal with the country's difficulties.

Last November, the Jamaican dollar was sharply devalued and the decline has reached the region of 60 percent.

Additionally, the government has in real terms cut back sharply on public spending in order to have the budgetary deficit trimmed to 8.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

Commercial banks also had to increase their liquid assets ratio from 20 to 40 percent and their cash reserve ratio from five to 10 percent.

The bank rate was accordingly adjusted upward by two percent to 13 percent, and the Central Bank's rediscount rate went from 13 to 15 percent.

The minimum rate on savings was also moved from 11 to 13 per cent, and building societies were allowed to move their rate on mortgages from 14 to 16 per cent.

GOVERNMENT TO REACTIVATE JAMPRESS NEWS AGENCY

FL310110 Bridgetown CANA in English 2218 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 30, CANA -- The Jamaica Government is to reactivate JAMPRESS as a national news agency and has recommended a task force to restructure the Jamaica Information Service (JIS).

The announcement was made today by Prime Minister Edward Seaga while addressing JIS employees.

JAMPRESS has been inactive since the present administration took power in 1980.

Seaga said the JIS would remain a full department of government and discussions were being held with the Ministry of Public Service in implementing the internal restructuring of the agency, and upgrading its establishment's structure which will begin next month.

Mrs Pamela Bisnauth-Hunter, chairman of the JIS task force, is to be appointed executive director, head of information at the Jamaica Bauxite Institute Hugh Lawrence is to be the deputy director, and the director of public relations at the JIS Ken Chaplin will be the editor-in-chief of JAMPRESS.

One of the areas on which JIS will concentrate is the development of its service about Jamaica's regions the prime minister said.

JAMPRESS, which was established in 1979, will be expanded into a national news agency to gather and disseminate information in Jamaica and overseas, especially in countries where there is a large concentration of Jamaicans, Seaga noted.

The JIS overseas operations will also be upgraded and the New York office will supervise these activities, beginning next month.

GUYANA

AGREEMENT ON FISHING SIGNED WITH JAPAN

FL302202 Bridgetown CANA in English 2033 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 30, CANA -- Guyana and Japan today signed an agreement providing for further assistance to this country's fishing sector.

Executive chairman of the state-run Guyana Fisheries Limited (GFL) Robert Williams said the agreement paves the way for the supply of a number of fishing boats, support facilities, and equipment for completion of a Demerara fishing port complex project under a Japanese grant of nine million dollars (one Guy dollar; 26 cents U.S.).

The agreement, he said, initiates the fourth phase of the project made possible through the Japanese International Cooperation Agency.

"We see the project as vital to the fishing industry, and more importantly, it provides the GFL with the opportunity to effectively service the objectives set out by the government to supply adequate protein to the people of Guyana," he said.

A Japanese team headed by Tatsumi Ojima has just completed a one-week study of the local fishing industry and has recommended the purchase of a 3,600 kilogram per day shrimp-grading machine, 10 20-ton fishing trawlers, and two 15-ton Ince plants. [as received]

Williams signed the agreement on behalf of the Guyana Government while Ojima signed for his government.

SURINAME

BRAZIL TO PROVIDE MILITARY EQUIPMENT, AID

FL301234 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Suriname is expected to receive a number of Brazilian armed personnel carriers next week. The vehicles are part of a Brazilian aid program to the former Dutch colony, which has been ruled by the military for the last 4 years. Brazil is also supplying its northern neighbor with technical assistance in agriculture, telecommunications equipment, energy development, and $15 million worth of military aid.